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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.8

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail, with sufficient postage, in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P. O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on the below date:

Date: August 29, 2006 Name: G. Peter Nichols

Signature:

BRINKS
HOFFER
GILSON
& LIONE

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Appln. of: Rigby et al.

Appln. No.: 10/573,434

Filed: March 24, 2006

For: ELECTROCHEMICAL REDUCTION OF
METAL OXIDES

Attorney Docket No: 9378/205

Examiner: TBA

Art Unit: 1745

Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P. O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

TRANSMITTAL

Sir:

Attached is/are:

- ☒ Transmittal Letter; Information Disclosure Statement; Form PTO-1449; cited references A14-A24 and
☒ Return Receipt Postcard

Fee calculation:

- ☒ No additional fee is required.
☐ Small Entity.
☐ An extension fee in an amount of \$_____ for a _____-month extension of time under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a).
☐ A petition or processing fee in an amount of \$_____ under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(____).
☐ An additional filing fee has been calculated as shown below:

					Small Entity			Not a Small Entity	
	Claims Remaining After Amendment		Highest No. Previously Paid For	Present Extra	Rate	Add'l Fee	or	Rate	Add'l Fee
Total		Minus			x \$25=			x \$50=	
Indep.		Minus			x 100=			x \$200=	
First Presentation of Multiple Dep. Claim					+\$180=			+\$360=	
					Total	\$		Total	\$

Fee payment:

- ☐ A check in the amount of \$_____ is enclosed.
☐ Please charge Deposit Account No. 23-1925 in the amount of \$_____. A copy of this Transmittal is enclosed for this purpose.
☐ Payment by credit card in the amount of \$_____ (Form PTO-2038 is attached).
☒ The Director is hereby authorized to charge payment of any additional filing fees required under 37 CFR § 1.16 and any patent application processing fees under 37 CFR § 1.17 associated with this paper (including any extension fee required to ensure that this paper is timely filed), or to credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 23-1925.

Date

29 AUG 2006

Respectfully submitted,

G. Peter Nichols (Reg. No. 34,401)

BRINKS HOFFER GILSON & LIONE

NBC Tower – Suite 3600, 455 N. Cityfront Plaza Drive, Chicago, IL 60611-5599

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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

In accordance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. §1.56 and §§1.97-1.98, and more particularly in accordance with 37 C.F.R. §1.97(b), Applicants hereby cite the following reference(s):

DOCUMENT NUMBER <small>Number-Kind Code (if known)</small>	DATE	NAME
4,045,308	8/30/1977	White et al.
2003/0047462 A1	3/13/2003	Ward-Close et al.
2003/0057101 A1	3/27/2003	Ward-Close et al.
6,540,902 B1	4/1/2003	Redey et al.
2003/0173228 A1	9/18/2003	Strezov et al.
6,663,763 B2	12/16/2003	Strezov et al.
2004/0026262 A1	2/12/2004	Strezov et al.
6,712,952 B1	3/30/2004	Fray et al.
2004/060826 A1	4/1/2004	Godfrey
2004/0159559 A1	8/19/2004	Fray et al.
2004/237711 A1	12/2/2004	Ono et al.
2005/0050989 A1	3/10/2005	Osborn et al.

FOREIGN DOCUMENTS

DOCUMENT NUMBER <small>Number-Kind Code (if known)</small>	DATE	COUNTRY
BR 9203400-4 A	8/21/1992	Brazil
JP 2004052037	2/19/2004	Japan
GB 2359564	8/29/2001	United Kingdom
GB 2362164	11/14/2001	United Kindgom
WO 99/064638	12/16/1999	WIPO
WO 03/038156	5/8/2003	WIPO
WO 04/053201	6/24/2004	WIPO
WO 04/113593	12/29/2004	WIPO

DOCUMENT NUMBER <small>Number-Kind Code (if known)</small>	DATE	COUNTRY
WO 05/031041	4/7/2005	WIPO

OTHER DOCUMENTS

International Preliminary Report on Patentability for PCT/AU2004/01331 dated March 27, 2006
International Search Report for PCT/AU2004/001331 dated October 21, 2004
Skula, L.B. et al., "Bioleaching of Sukinda Laterite Using Ultrasonics", <i>Hydrometallurgy</i> , Vol. 37, No. 3, pp. 387-391, 1995

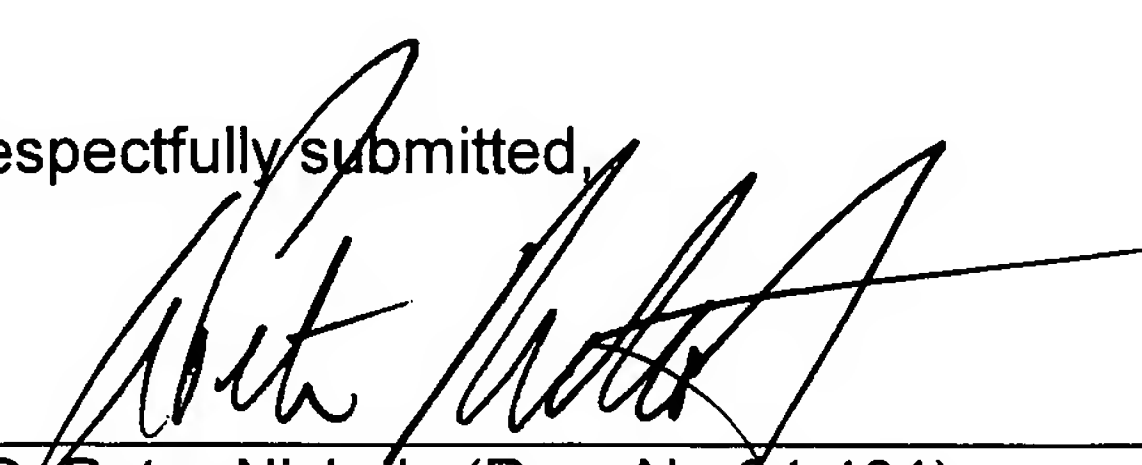
Applicants are enclosing Form PTO-1449 (one sheet), along with a copy of each listed reference for which a copy is required under 37 C.F.R. §1.98(a)(2). As each of the listed references is in English, no further commentary is believed to be necessary, 37 C.F.R §1.98(a)(3). Applicants respectfully request the Examiner's consideration of the above reference(s) and entry thereof into the record of this application.

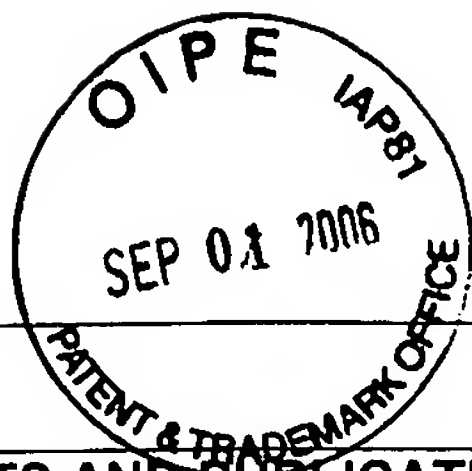
By submitting this Statement, Applicants are attempting to fully comply with the duty of candor and good faith mandated by 37 C.F.R. §1.56. As such, this Statement is not intended to constitute an admission that any of the enclosed references, or other information referred to therein, constitutes "prior art" or is otherwise "material to patentability," as that phrase is defined in 37 C.F.R. §1.56(a).

Applicants have calculated no fee to be due in connection with the filing of this Statement. However, the Director is authorized to charge any fee deficiency associated with the filing of this Statement to a deposit account, as authorized in the Transmittal accompanying this Statement.

29 Aug 2006
Date

Respectfully submitted,


G. Peter Nichols (Reg. No. 34,401)



FORM PTO-1449	SERIAL NO. 10/573,434	CASE NO. 9378/205
LIST OF PATENTS AND PUBLICATIONS FOR APPLICANT'S INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT	FILING DATE March 24, 2006	GROUP ART UNIT 1745
(use several sheets if necessary)	APPLICANT(S): Rigby et al.	

REFERENCE DESIGNATION

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER <small>Number-Kind Code (if known)</small>	DATE	NAME	CLASS/ SUBCLASS	FILING DATE
	A1	4,045,308	8/30/1977	White et al.		
	A2	2003/0047462 A1	3/13/2003	Ward-Close et al.		
	A3	2003/0057101 A1	3/27/2003	Ward-Close et al.		
	A4	6,540,902 B1	4/1/2003	Redey et al.		
	A5	2003/0173228 A1	9/18/2003	Strezov et al.		
	A6	6,663,763 B2	12/16/2003	Strezov et al.		
	A7	2004/0026262 A1	2/12/2004	Strezov et al.		
	A8	6,712,952 B1	3/30/2004	Fray et al.		
	A9	2004/060826 A1	4/1/2004	Godfrey		
	A10	2004/0159559 A1	8/19/2004	Fray et al.		
	A11	2004/237711 A1	12/2/2004	Ono et al.		
	A12	2005/0050989 A1	3/10/2005	Osborn et al.		
	A13	6,921,473 B2	7/26/2005	Ward-Close et al.		

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER <small>Number-Kind Code (if known)</small>	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS/ SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION YES OR NO
	A14	BR 9203400-4 A	8/21/1992	Brazil		Abstract
	A15	JP 2004052037	2/19/2004	Japan		Abstract
	A16	GB 2359564	8/29/2001	United Kingdom		
	A17	GB 2362164	11/14/2001	United Kindgom		
	A18	WO 99/064638	12/16/1999	WIPO		
	A19	WO 03/038156	5/8/2003	WIPO		Abstract
	A20	WO 04/053201	6/24/2004	WIPO		
	A21	WO 04/113593	12/29/2004	WIPO		
	A22	WO 05/031041	4/7/2005	WIPO		

EXAMINER INITIAL	OTHER ART – NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS (Include name of author, title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.)	
	A23	International Preliminary Report on Patentability for PCT/AU2004/01331 dated March 27, 2006
	A24	International Search Report for PCT/AU2004/001331 dated October 21, 2004
	A25	Skula, L.B. et al., "Bioleaching of Sukinda Laterite Using Ultrasonics", <i>Hydrometallurgy</i> , Vol. 37, No. 3, pp. 387-391, 1995

EXAMINER	DATE CONSIDERED
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EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.